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#6, December

VANTAGE™

Information for the Serious Comic Book Investor

WHY YOU SHOULD LOOK FOR HER FIRST APPEARANCE!

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EXCLUSIVE INFO ON...

300 PICKS STRAIGHT OUT OF DEALERS' BARGAIN BOXES!

BACK ISSUE PICKS FROM:
- PETER DAVID!
- WALT SIMONSON!
- NELSON!
- IRON MAN!
- FANTASTIC FOUR!

INSIDE INFO ON:
- SHADOWMAN!
- DEFIANT!
- LIEFELD!
- ARMORINES!
- DAREDEVIL #319-323!

LIGHTNING COMICS: JUST A FAD?

Artwork TM & © 1993 Malibu Ent. Group

WIN A PRESS RELEASE REVIEW PREVIEW

PRIME COVER ART SIGNED BY NORM BREYFOGLE!

We want you to help us spread the word about how cool **Vantage** is! Just fill out the coupon below, have your local store fill out their half, and send it in FAST! Hey, the odds are in your favor, because how many people are really going to bring this coupon back to their comic store and bug the guy behind the counter with it? If you win you'll get the **PRESS RELEASE REVIEW** Preview (which has Prime on the cover) signed by superhot **Prime** artist Norm Breyfogle and the VANTAGE GIANT NOTHING (what?)! Plus, you'll see your name printed in **Vantage!** Wild!

READ THE RULES: 1) Surprise, surprise, no purchase is necessary. 2) To win, you must send in an entry (coupon) filled out by two people: The top gets filled out by YOU. The bottom gets filled out by the guy sitting behind the counter at your local comic shop. 3) You may send in your entry on another piece of paper, or on a photocopy of the coupon. 4) Send as many contest entries as you want, but each contestant may send in only one per store. The store does not have to carry **Vantage.** You can mail your entries to us all in the same envelope, so feel free to hit every store in your city. Entries that are not signed by an actual store employee will be disqualified. Entries that are not 100% filled out and complete will be disqualified. Contest ends 1/5/94.

YOU KNOW THE RULES. YOU KNOW THE PRIZE.

FILL OUT THIS COUPON AND YOU COULD WIN:

THE PRESS RELEASE REVIEW LIMITED EDITION WITH ITS PRIME COVER SIGNED BY NORM BREYFOGLE AND THE INFAMOUS VANTAGE GIANT NOTHING!!!

To be filled out by you:

Name:_____ Phone: ( ) _____

Address:_____ City, State and ZIP _____

To be filled out by a comic store employee, owner, or manager:

Store Name:_____ City and State:_____

"I certify that I really do work for a comic store and that I really do want my customer to win free stuff."

Employee Name:_____ Employee Signature:_____

On a scale from one to five (FIVE IS BEST), does your customer like Vantage?

__5 __4 __3 __2 __1

What does your customer like about Vantage? _____

RETAILER: Vantage is the new publication on comic book investing! We have a great track record of picks (e.g., Prime #1-2, Knightfall #11, Plasm Binder), we encourage sales, we are **very pro-reading,** and we give your customer the chance to spend his money more wisely! Many of your customers are readers who prefer to read the books that are more likely to go up — that way they feel they have gotten more for their money. Vantage can be an invaluable resource for these reader/collectors!!! Vantage! Vantage is being merged into our new magazine, **Press Release Review!** Look for us in your distributor's catalogue!

Mail to: Vantage Prime Contest,
Suite #166,
10238 West National Avenue,
West Allis, WI 53227

This entry should be mailed by the contestant, not the comic store!

VANTAGE PRESS RELEASE R·E·V·I·E·W

Inside information for dealers and collectors!

Congratulations to Walter Miller, Jr. of Crownsville, MD for winning our contest in Vantage #0: Walter is now the proud owner of the Plasm Binder, a box of cards, and the infamous Vantage Giant Nothing! Way to go, Walter!

VANTAGE ADVISORS

Below are some of our advisors. We'll print more names next month. These are top professionals in the comic book industry who really know their stuff. The opinions expressed in **Vantage** are not necessarily those of our advisors.

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Key Comics
(602) 926-7106
1230 S. Gilbert Rd., Suite G-12
Mesa, AZ 85204

Oggie & Karen Medlock
Mommy's Books & Daddy's Comics
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Vidalia, GA 30474

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YOUR SOURCE for the BEST COMICS from yesterday, today, tomorrow!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLISHER

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for taking a gamble on that little ivory pamphlet in the back of the store. We've found that almost everyone who gives us a shot sticks with us. That's because we deliver a high-quality product with information and market analysis you can't get anywhere else.

Thanks to your continuing support, **Vantage** is once again moving forward. In January, we'll be introducing **Press Release Review**, a new magazine for people interested in the marketplace. **Vantage** will merge into **Press Release Review**. That's right, you'll be able to get the same high quality picks and market analysis that you've been getting in Vantage — only now you'll get even more cool stuff. The cover price of the mag will be a low $2.95.

When **Press Release Review** debuts in January, don't let our new magazine-size fool you. We will never sink to spewing out mindless hype. I'll be honest with you here — we think the "picks" in other mags are despicable. Loyal readers of these hype-machines are fooled into thinking that the over-printed mega-hyped book of the month is a good investment. When we make a pick, it's for real. We really believe in our picks (long-term!), and we're not fooling anybody. We're straight-shooters, not hype-shooters. Maybe that's why in just over a year's time, you'll watch **Vantage** grow from a little ivory pamphlet into a new magazine. Indeed, the best is yet to come.

—Rob Golub

Top Picks of the Month

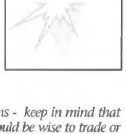
Exiles #1 (Ultraverse back-issue)
Exiles #4 (Ultraverse)
Breakthru #1 (Ultraverse)

VANTAGE INVESTMENT PICK

More Vantage Investment Picks

Eudaemon #1 (Dark Horse recent back-issue)
Dark Horse Presents #72-74 (Dark Horse back-issues)
Ultraverse, all titles (especially **Prime**, **Exiles**)
Fantastic Four #381-up (Marvel recent back-issues)
The Star Slammers (**Marvel Graphic Novel** #6, Marvel back-issue)
Epic Illustrated #15 (First Dreadstar, Marvel back-issue)
The Price (**Eclipse Graphic Album Series** #5, Eclipse Comics back-issue)
Dreadstar (**Marvel Graphic Novel** #3, Marvel back-issue)
Dreadstar #1 (Marvel back-issues, 1982 series)
Iron Man #281, other appearances of Warmachine (Marvel back-issue)

Watch for the Vantage Star indicating our top picks!



"The above pick list is a guide based on research, advisors' opinions, and staff opinions - keep in mind that even the experts will disagree. "Hot" comics can lose value after months or years. You would be wise to trade or sell books before they lose value. Read over the facts and opinions in Vantage, examine the pick list, and then make your own investment decisions. Remember: 1) There's no sure thing. Never bet the farm on any one book. 2) Comics may be fun to invest in, but they're even more fun to read! Open up one of those sealed polybags and give comics a try!"

- Publisher Rob Golub

Publisher, Rob Golub Creative Director, Tracy Willems. Art Director, Steve Reid. Editor, Steve Asvitt.

Special thanks to our advisors. Vantage is copyright (c) and TM 1993 by Rob Golub. All rights reserved. Published by Vantage. Member, Newsletter Publisher's Association (NPA). Our new phone number is 414-545-3646. If busy, dial -0652. Address: Vantage, 10238 West National Avenue, #166, West Allis, WI 53227. Subscription information is on the back page. Vantage was founded to bring you more information and fairness. The average collector (as opposed to a large company) has been at a disadvantage for too long.

ULTRAVERSE HEATS UP:

YOUNG COLLECTORS BUY PRIME!

Advisors from around the nation are reporting a fantastic new phenomenon. Droves of young teens and pre-teens are buying **Prime** #1's for three, four, even five or six dollars at the shows.

This is a big, big deal. **Vantage** views younger collectors as the backbone of any collectible. That's because these young comic-fans READ their books.

All too often, speculators jump on board with a book or universe because they think it will be the "next hot thing" (see Lightning Comics article) without even reading what they buy. Then, the perception that something is hot among some people creates even more perception, and so on . . . until the whole thing falls apart because there are so few readers.

This is less likely to happen when younger collectors are involved. These are the most genuine, most sincere people in the industry. More than anyone else, they read their comic books. Yes, these young comic fans are buying **Prime** because they think it's "hot," but also because they plan to read it.

Once they give it a try, **Vantage** expects that these young readers love the idea of a thirteen-year-old in a man's body, trying to figure out what to do with himself.

These young fans are the sort that have real loyalty. This is the same crowd that sticks with X-Men through thick and thin. . . . the same crowd that sticks with Spawn . . . the same crowd that sticks with Spider-Man, no matter who writes or draws it. Time and time again, these young readers have granted **permanent** back-issue-value to those titles they deemed worthy.

Only a small fraction of young fans have caught on. Nonetheless, **Prime** now has a crucial foothold within this important group of fans. Thanks to these young readers and, yes, a zillion speculators, **Prime** #1 is selling briskly at well above cover. **Prime** #2 is shooting upward and impossible to find, due to the low print run (Told ya so! Told ya so! . . . sorry, we couldn't resist).

In some parts of the country, **Prime** back-issues can still be found at cover price. **Vantage** readers who live in those areas be forewarned: It's unlikely those books will stick around much longer.

Our hats are off to Malibu and the Ultraverse team for creating a universe that at this time has the greatest potential in the industry to really explode. As **Prime** heats up, this can only benefit the rest of the Ultraverse.

For example, Mantra has turned out to be a popular character. Keep in mind however that Mantra is a female character and that female-based comics historically have trouble gaining value. Now don't shower us with letters telling us we're sexist. We don't make the rules, we just report on 'em.

Nonetheless, Mantra is a man in the body of a woman, so: 1) Perhaps normal anti-female market tendencies don't apply here. 2) She can always later enter the body of a man and her first appearance will still have been Mantra #1!

Yes, even more Ultraverse titles do have a real potential to heat up, thanks in part to the upcoming Break-Thru crossover . . .

Prime and Mantra TM & © 1993 Malibu Comics Entertainment

"Vantage readers who live in those areas be forewarned: It's unlikely those books will stick around much longer."

UTRAVERSE BREAK-THRU CROSS-OVER:

ONLY VANTAGE HAS THE DETAILS

You know from last issue that "Break-Thru" is the upcoming cross-over between Malibu's Ultraverse titles. You also know that it's being heavily hyped. . . . *and that's all you know!*

See, Malibu has been really hush-hush about the whole Break-Thru cross-over on purpose. Their plan is to make the whole thing as much of a surprise as possible. The story and even the general theme of the cross-over has remained a closely-guarded secret. Until now.

Vantage has managed to obtain some of the details on the Break-Thru cross-over from special sources close to Malibu. This information is strictly confidential. Please do not pass it on to non-**Vantage** readers . . .

Amber Hunt will be a character of MAJOR IMPORTANCE in the Break-Thru cross-over. We cannot emphasize this enough — our sources tell us that Amber will be THE central character for the duration of the cross-over.

Amber's first appearance is in **Exiles** #1 (our print-run estimate: a low 100,000) where all sorts of super-types fiercely chase after her. She's just a normal Parkmoore High School student (with an attitude) who's kissing her boyfriend in **Exiles** #1 when suddenly EVERYONE is out to get her.

Our sources are unclear on **Exiles** #2-3 but it appears that those books may be important as well. Our sources do indicate that **Exiles** #4 will be an important prelude to the cross-over.

In **Exiles** #4, we'll see strange things happening to Amber Hunt. She starts to have . . . well, problems. **Exiles** #4 will lead right into **Break-Thru** #1, the one-shot that kicks off the whole cross-over.

In **Break-Thru** #1, we'll see Amber burst into flames. In fact, Amber's flaming figure will fill the entire George Perez cover to **Break-Thru** #1. This one-shot introduction to the cross-over will tell a story where Amber, flaming and all, will be pulled into outer-space.

Space and the moon will be the setting for much of **Break-Thru**. Cool. **Vantage** loves earth-born heroes dragged into outer-space. So does the public.

Our sources further indicate that Amber will be hovering in space for a good portion of the cross-over, and

> *"A dark secret related to this awaits the heroes on the moon"*

that the cross-over will involve all of Earth's heroes getting together to try to figure out what she's doing out there.

This indicates to **Vantage** that we can expect to see demand increase considerably for the first appearance of Amber Hunt (**Exiles** #1) and for her story prior to the cross-over (**Exiles** #4, and maybe **Exiles** #2-3). Our sources further indicate that **Exiles** #5 will be an important book.

The Break-Thru cross-over will be a major event in the Ultraverse, as it will reveal for the first time why there have been so many people with super-powers popping up on Earth all at once. A dark secret related to this awaits the heroes on the moon.

Vantage expects that the cross-over in general could go under-ordered by cautious stores and dealers who still remember getting burned on other items this past summer.

Since **Exiles** #4 was ordered in early September, before **Prime** started to really heat up, it seems likely that this book will have a low print-run (we have no estimate yet).

As **Vantage** predicted, Ultraverse has the potential to really heat up. We are truly excited about it!

Breakthru and Exiles TM & © 1993 Malibu Comics Entertainment, Inc.

LIGHTNING COMICS™:

FAD OR FANTASTIC?

Lightning Comics is the relatively new small publisher that has been drawing attention from speculators in recent months. **Vantage** is skeptical.

Without a doubt, the most important factor for back-issue value is the quality of reading. See, speculators alone can push a book upward only so far. Collectors, however, are **THE** major force for *stability* in the marker.

Collectors are people who love to read comics, but prefer to read the books most likely to go up. These collectors are the people who were behind Valiant. These collectors are the people who now maintain a healthy Valiant. They're not reading Lightning.

Advisors report that Lightning's rising back-issue prices can be attributed almost entirely to speculators who don't read comics. At first, sly Lightning supporters whispered rumors of this supposed "next" Valiant. More recently, advisors say that the excitement over Lightning has seemed to build on itself, creating a small feeding frenzy that doesn't have enough readership to give it long-term strength.

Somebody has to tell it like it is, so we will. The quality of the artwork in Lightning books has thus far been fannish. The writing is better, but it sometimes seems to focus on two-dimensional characters who seek-out-and-destroy. Repeated claims that the artwork and story would soon improve are as yet unsubstantiated.

"Somebody has to tell it like it is, so we will."

Vantage fears that if Lightning speculators decide to stop taking the risk and refuse to pay for #5s, #7s, or #9s, readers won't be there to pick up the slack and the whole thing could fall apart.

Vantage is particularly surprised at the fact that another investment advisor has chosen to stand up behind Lightning, after having spent years extolling the importance of story and art. Perhaps he should go back and review his own writings.

In any case, Lightning Comics is not a hopeless cause. They have established that their books can gain back-issue value. If more speculators jump on board, the books could continue to go up.

In addition, the back-issue value of Lightning books could take on a new permanence if story and art improve. We hope they do.

SO YOU THINK DAREDEVIL #320 IS RARE?

As we predicted, the Daredevil "Fall From Grace" story has really heated up. Below are some **Vantage** print run estimates:

Daredevil #319: 45,000
Daredevil #320: 55,000
Daredevil #321: 20,000
Daredevil #322: 90,000
Daredevil #323: 140,000

Keep in mind that publishers print about as many copies as stores and dealers order two months beforehand. It seems pretty clear from the above figures that stores expected to sell the first issue or two of the cross-over well, but ordered low on #321 with the expectation that interest would die quickly. However, when customers started to respond even better than expected to #319-320, dealers started to increase their orders for Daredevil starting with #322 and #323 (which are still pretty low).

Our point: Rumor has it that #320 is rare. Yeah it is, but if you think #320 is rare then **#321 is completely uncooked**! Wow!!!

Daredevil and Fall from Grace TM & © 1993 Marvel Entertainment Group

CREATOR-OWNED TITLES BASED ON OLDER COMICS!

Can you say Bravura? We didn't think so. Try this — Brav. You're. Ahh. Now say it all together fast. Congratulations. You just pronounced the name of Malibu's new creator-owned imprint, not an easy feat.

Bravura has been founded by seven of the industry's leading talents: Dan Brereton, Howard Chaykin, Steven Grant, Dan Jurgens, Gil Kane, Walter Simonson, and Jim Starlin. Other creators to be involved will include Marv Wolfman, Norm Breyfogle, and Peter David. The Bravura label will be owned, published, and distributed by Malibu Comics.

The first title to debut from Bravura will be Jim Starlin's **'Breed** in January of 1994. **Vantage** has seen an advance copy of **'Breed** #1. As you would expect from Jim Starlin, (Infinity Gauntlet, a million other things) it's pretty good. As the man says, "**'Breed** is the story of a man who discovers he's half-human/half-demon and how he deals with his heritage."

However, **'Breed** is NOT where this month's investment news is. **Vantage,** sneaky sleuths that we are, has uncovered two prior Bravura first appearances. That's right, two of these new titles are based on older titles, and for those of you who like a good hunt, that's were the opportunity is.

Peter David is a great writer. Plus, he has a great big loyal following. Whatever he writes, people will flock to read it. His past work includes **The Hulk**, **Spider-Man 2099**, several best-selling **Star Trek** novels, and his column in **Comics Buyer's Guide**, which is consistently voted most popular year after year. Peter may be the most well-known and respected writer in comics.

Thus, it stands to reason that when Peter writes **Dreadstar** in the Spring of 1994, people will be reading it. A new #1 is sure to attract a great deal of attention. While we don't expect the book to be "hot" we do expect it to be popular among a pretty large group of devoted fans.

Dreadstar is a fun science-fiction/adventure story that has been sometimes on, sometimes off for years. It's always a great read. **Vantage** expects a new surge of demand to come for early **Dreadstar** books as readers start searching for more **Dreadstar.**

First appearance of Dreadstar: **Epic Illustrated** #15 (Marvel 1980 back-issue). Second appearance: **The Price (Eclipse Graphic Album Series** #5, Eclipse Comics 1981 back-issue). Additional early appearances: **Dreadstar #1** (Marvel, 1982 back-issue) and **Dreadstar (Marvel Graphic Novel** #3).

Be careful not to confuse **Dreadstar** #1 with the **Dreadstar and Company** 1985 reprint. These books are all hard to find, but they **are** out there. Happy hunting.

Also from Bravura, Walter Simonson will be writing and drawing a new **Starslammers** series. Walter is a top-grade artist/writer whose past work includes a beautiful stint on Thor and other cool stuff. His writing is enjoyable and his art style is unique.

Walter's Bravura series will be based on his Starslammers team, which was first introduced in **Starslammers (Mavel Graphic Novel** #6). Again, this is a hard-to-find book that should do nicely thanks the new interest in Starslammers.

. . . and there you have it — awesome picks from the big **V** that you can't get anywhere else. What can we say? We've done it before. Heck, we bet we'll do it again.

"Vantage expects a new surge of demand to come for early Dreadstar books as readers start searching for more Dreadstar."

Breed TM & © 1993 Jim Starlin

VANTAGE QUICKIES

NELSON: Vantage has an eye on top-notch artist Nelson. Although not yet "hot," this former **Wizard™** Cover Artist certainly deserves to be. Nelson has been concentrating his efforts on the Eudaemon, a giant purple monster. **Nelson's rendition of the Eudaemon is breathtaking.**

The little-known first appearance of the Eudaemon is **Dark Horse Presents** #72, which kicked off a story that continues into #73 and #74.

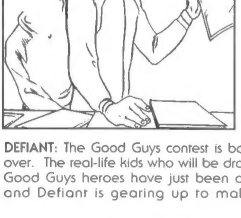
More recently, Eudaemon's first mini has just started showing up in stores. Nelson's cover painting on **Eudaemon** #1 (of 3) is **awesome** and Nelson's artwork inside the book is striking.

Nelson has indicated to **Vantage** that he plans on doing many more projects with the Eudaemon character in the near future. If the quality of story and art are maintained, it seems likely that readers of future **Eudaemon** projects will be searching for **Eudaemon** back-issues. Watch out for **Eudaemon** and Nelson.

"The origin of Shadowman is NOT what you think it is."

SO SUE ME: The motion by Marvel Comics for a preliminary injunction in a lawsuit which sought to prevent rival Defiant from using the title Warriors of Plasm was denied in a ruling by Judge Michael B. Mukasye.

The lawsuit charging trademark infringement was filed in August by Marvel against Defiant. Marvel's suit maintained that the name **Warriors of Plasm** infringed upon its alleged trademark rights on the character Plasmer.



Artwork TM & © 1993 Enlightened Entertainment, Ltd.

DEFIANT: The Good Guys contest is basically over. The real-life kids who will be drawn as Good Guys heroes have just been chosen and Defiant is gearing up to make an announcement as to who they are. The pages for upcoming Good Guys issues have already been drawn, without faces of course (see artwork, this page). An 8-16 page comic previewing Defiant's **Charlemagne** will be inserted with February's **Hero Illustrated.**

DC: Vertigo back-issues should get a nice push from ongoing the Vertigo annuals cross-over entitled The Children's Crusade. **Sandman** readers will be introduced to other titles, which could greatly assist their back-issues. Some advisors report that **Jonah Hex** has been selling better than they had expected.

MIDNIGHT SONS: Midnight Sons is the Marvel cross-over that is intended to bring all of the Marvel horror titles together under one imprint. Advisors are reporting that initial reaction to Marvel's Midnight Sons cross-over has been stronger than anticipated.

Advance orders may have been too low. This could lead to some price gains. **Doctor Strange** #60 (Part 7) may have a particularly low print run for reasons that we cannot disclose.

X-CITING: As we had predicted, demand for recent **X-Men** books has been on the upswing. **Vantage** expects that the start of the second season of the successful Fox cartoon in early November/late October should help push demand even higher. Show dealers and retailers: Expect a high X-demand Christmas.

ARMORINES: About a zillion of you have called us to say that we must be wrong about **X-O Manowar** #19. You've told us that it must be the first appearance of Armorines for about eight thousand good reasons. In fact, we understand that one retailer almost dismembered Valiant Publisher Steve Massarsky for attempting to explain that Armorines did not first appear in #19. The bottom line: The individuals who make up the CIA tactical team in #19, according to Valiant, will not be the Armorines. Please, don't hurt us.

SHADOWMAN: The Shadowman of the 1890s, introduced in **Shadowman** #21 will play a major role in the Valiant universe. Inside sources close to Valiant report to **Vantage** that the origin of Shadowman is NOT what you think it is — no biting aliens involved. Instead, our sources indicate that the origin ties somehow into the 1890s Shadowman. All will be revealed in forthcoming **Shadowman** #0.

VANTAGE QUICKIES

VALIANT TID-BITS: Sources indicate that **Solar** #30 will introduce a major new character named Ravenus. The character will have the ability to feed on energy, so that he can take anything Solar throws at him.

The Other Man (1st: **H.A.R.D. Corps** #11) will become increasingly important in coming months. **Magnus** #33 will feature the last appearance of Ivar before he starts off in **Timewalker** #1. **Bloodshot** #13 ties into **Ninjak** #1. Valiant expects to have the Malevs war all wrapped up by the summer of 1994.

VALIANT PRINT RUNS: Valiant print runs appear to be settling down to the 125,000 to 175,000 range. Since we estimate that the runs were formerly close to 300,000 at the height of the Valiant speculation craze a few months age, it now seems clear that speculators had been accounting for about half of Valiant sales.

TM & © 1993 Corporate Kingdom Holdings

However, don't make the mistake of looking at this huge drop as a sign of impending failure for Valiant. Valiant is a success. They provide good reading material and now that the speculator craze is over they can operate as any healthy company should . . . putting out something that the market gets excited over every so often, while still chugging along, making good comics.

The speculator craze has given Valiant the reputation of a company whose books can gain value, and if not for the craze Valiant wouldn't have orders for 125,000 to 175,000 comic READERS! They'd be just another little independent.

TRIUMPHANT: As far as smaller universes go, this one seems pretty promising. Vantage has learned that in **Scavengers** #5, soon to come out, important character Jack Hanal dies. Furthermore, sources indicate that **Riot Gear** #4 will feature the surprise death of a major character. This will seriously alter the direction of the title.

DEFIANT/TRIUMPHANT CROSS-OVER: For those of you who missed the last couple issues of **Vantage** (for shame!), **Doctor Chaos** #1-2 from Triumphant will feature the first appearance of a major Defiant hero. They are both **Vantage** picks.

Vantage has now learned that in **Doctor Chaos** #1, Chaos will react to what happens in that book's center-spread by saying, "Did you see that?" This establishes the center-spread in #1 as part of the Triumphant continuity. (See artwork, this page)

In addition, this center-spread interlocks with several others, including the one in #2 featuring War Dancer. Thus, we have War Dancer's first appearance as part of an actual storyline continuity. Cool.

FANTASTIC FOUR: Fantastic Four #381 features the under-hyped death of Mr. Fantastic. Marvel will be focusing on the death of Reed Richards for up to two years as they draw the storyline out.

The **Vantage** print run estimate for #381: a low 95,000. Over the next two years, it seems likely that the book could gain some value as readers return to the original issue that kicked off this especially long storyline.

IRON MAN SPIN-OFF: Marvel will soon start a heavy push behind their new title, Warmachine. Warmachine was introduced in Iron Man #281. This appearance and other appearances could gain some value.

LIEFELD: Some of the top animation professionals in the world are now collaborating on a **Youngblood** cartoon. Veterans of the **X-Men, Batman,** and **The Jetsons Movie** are now putting together the **Youngblood** cartoon for Liefeld's Extreme Studios. Rumor has it that the cartoon may appear on a major network. This could seriously affect the value of **Youngblood** back issues.

DOOMSDAY: This king of bad-guys will be featured in an upcoming DC mini-series. At this time we are aware of no plans to bring him back in a surprise appearance in a regular Superman title. However, we cannot rule this out.

OVER 300 INVESTMENT PICKS

STRAIGHT OUT OF DEALERS' BARGAIN BOXES

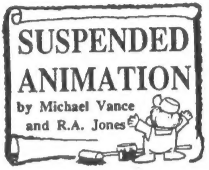
The following books all have the potential to gain future value. At this time, they are too high risk to be considered official **Vantage** picks, but at 50¢ or a dollar, how can you go wrong? At the very least, you'll probably get a great read!

Heh-heh, bet you didn't think we could fit 'em all in here . . .

Pick #	What We Picked	Why We Picked It
1-56	**Dreadstar** #2-50, Annual #1 **Dreadstar and Company** #1-6 (& any other Dreadstar app)	New Dreadstar series from Peter David (see Creator Owned article)
57-177	**Judge Dredd** #1-35 . . . vol 2, #1-50, Special #1 **Judge Dredd's Crime File** #1-6 . . . second series, #1-6 **J.D., The Early Cases** #1-6 **J.D., The Judge Child Quest** #1-5 (above all from Eagle Comics) **The Law of Dredd** #1-12 (above from Quality or Fleetway) (& any other Judge Dredd including British appearances)	Scheduled Christmas 1994 Judge Dredd movie with Sylvester Stallone
178-216	**The Black Panther** #1-15 . . . second series, #1-4 **Jungle Action** #5-24 (& any other Black Panther app)	Black Panther movie in the works
217-314	**Doctor Strange** #3-81 **DS Classics** #1-4, **DS/Silver Dagger** #1 **DS, S. Supreme** #1-15 (& any other Doctor Strange app)	Doctor Strange movie in the works
314+	All Ghost Rider appearances (Marvel hero)	Ghost Rider movie in the works
314+	**The Tick** (New England Press) all issues and appearances	Saturday morning cartoon
314+	Spider-Man appearances	Spider-Man movie in the works from James Cameron (of Aliens and Terminator fame)

Note: Marvel has only recently re-acquired their own movie rights. Thus, with Marvel playing a more active role in the quality of the movie, we may see movies come forth on par with the spectacular Batman and Superman films of years past. Still, we must also caution you that many more movies die than live, both before reaching the screen and after.

COMICS ARE FOR READING FIRST!



If Suspended Animation has whet your appetite for comics, accept our invitation to a free lunch. Feed your hunger without spending a dime at your public library.

Even the smallest library offers a few appetizers. But small libraries with ties to metropolitan ones can offer a very full plate. Turn to the menu (the library catalogue) and order from either "subject" or "author" for a comics cornucopia.

Start breakfast from the newspaper section and its buffet of comic strips. Today, pick an entry under "subject".

A full library larder of American and Foreign comics are under this menu. There, you'll find not only collections of comic books and strips in hard- and soft- cover editions, but also books on collecting, reviews, illustrations, and history. Magazine, editorial and strip cartoons are all represented. Everyone from Bill Griffith (of "Zippy" fame) to Walt Disney offers at least a tidbit.

For my last trip, I ordered **Feiffer: The Collected Works (V#2).** It was delicious.

Your tastes may lean towards comic book price guides, or books on how to write, draw, and even sell your own comics culinary.

Don't forget the children's menu. You'll find great comics casseroles their in slightly smaller servings.

If you've room for dessert, many libraries even serve cassette tapes of old radio shows like Superman, Little Orphan Annie and Dick Tracy. Sample vintage comic movies including Batman, Superman, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Prince Valiant, and animated features like Little Nemo in Slumberland. Don't bypass musicals like "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

It's a feast of fun featuring the most popular art-form in the world. And if it tastes right, you can eventually stock your own private library at home. If it tastes bad, however, at least it was . . .food for thought.

Remember to clean your plate. MV.

People discovering comics they enjoy may have questions or comments. Send them to: 1427 S. Delaware Ave., Tulsa, OK, 74104 with a self-addressed envelope.

Vantage Excellence In Reading Award

Winner
Firearm Video/Comic Package

It was not our intention to turn this into an all-Malibu issue of **Vantage.** We're just reporting on what's happening in comics and it just so happens that Malibu is what's happening this month. **Vantage** watched a promo for the Firearm Video. Much to our pleasant surprise, the promo video was professional, and, well, really cool. **Firearm** #0 is the comic book that ends in a film. Pick up the package,and we expect you'll be shocked at the high-quality music, graphics, and more.

VANTAGE READING PICK

Firearm and related artwork TM & © 1993 Malibu Comics Entertainment, Inc.

WE SAID IT, IT HAPPENED:

"**A Vantage Exclusive** . . . **Prime** #4 will ship with two different covers."
— **Vantage**, before both **Prime #4** covers came out!

"Top Pick of the Month"
— **Vantage** on **Bloodshot** #6-7, when #6 was still cover price!

"Investment Pick"
— **Vantage** on **Prime** #1-2, before they came out!

NOW ANYONE CAN BE A VANTAGE ADVISOR!

We'll print your fan mail and names of Tipmeister winners in this spot next month. This month, we just had to tell you about out new **Collector Advisor Program!** Now, you don't have to be a dealer to be a **Vantage Advisor!** Just fill out the form below and send it in. That's right, just let us know what areas of comicdom you are an expert in! Please be specific! An example of what you might put down: "**X-Men** #94-150, **Spawn** #1-up (I live for Spawn. I know it very well.), **X-O Manowar** #1-up, **Cerebus** #50-up (I've reread these often)." Our research for **Vantage** constantly leads us to questions that you, as a devoted comic reader, might be able to help us answer! If we need your help we'll give you a call . . . and if you do help us you'll see your name printed in **Vantage**, you'll win a **Vantage** giant nothing, and WE will be eternally grateful!

GET VANTAGE UP TO THREE WEEKS EARLIER!

Vantage is the ONLY publication that takes comic book investing seriously. Now you can get a special pre-press edition of **Vantage** before each month's advance-order deadline!* Get your comics at a discount in advance and watch your savings make up for the low **Vantage** subscription price! Plus, you'll get our inside back issue tips before anyone else! This is a **special RUSH service** which we will make available only to a limited number of subscribers. BONUS: Each issue will come with ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INFO that only subscribers get to see! Dealers and comic stores are welcome!

Cool! I understand that I will get a special pre-press copy of VANTAGE, and that VANTAGE will get my copy to me before the ADVANCE ORDER DEADLINE! Plus I get EXCLUSIVE ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INFO! I'll make check or M.O. out to VANTAGE, Sub. Dept.#6, 10238 W. National Ave, Suite 166, West Allis, WI 53227.

❑$49.50, 1 Year ❑$89.50, 2 Years

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

PHONE: (_____) _____ ❑ Check here if you own or work at a comic shop.

❑ Check here & fill out space below if you want to be a Vantage Collector Advisor (must be 16). You may call me as an expert on the following:

_____

*We reserve the right to change info or picks if new information comes in before we print Vantage.
For changes other than small corrections and minor adjustments, we will keep you updated.